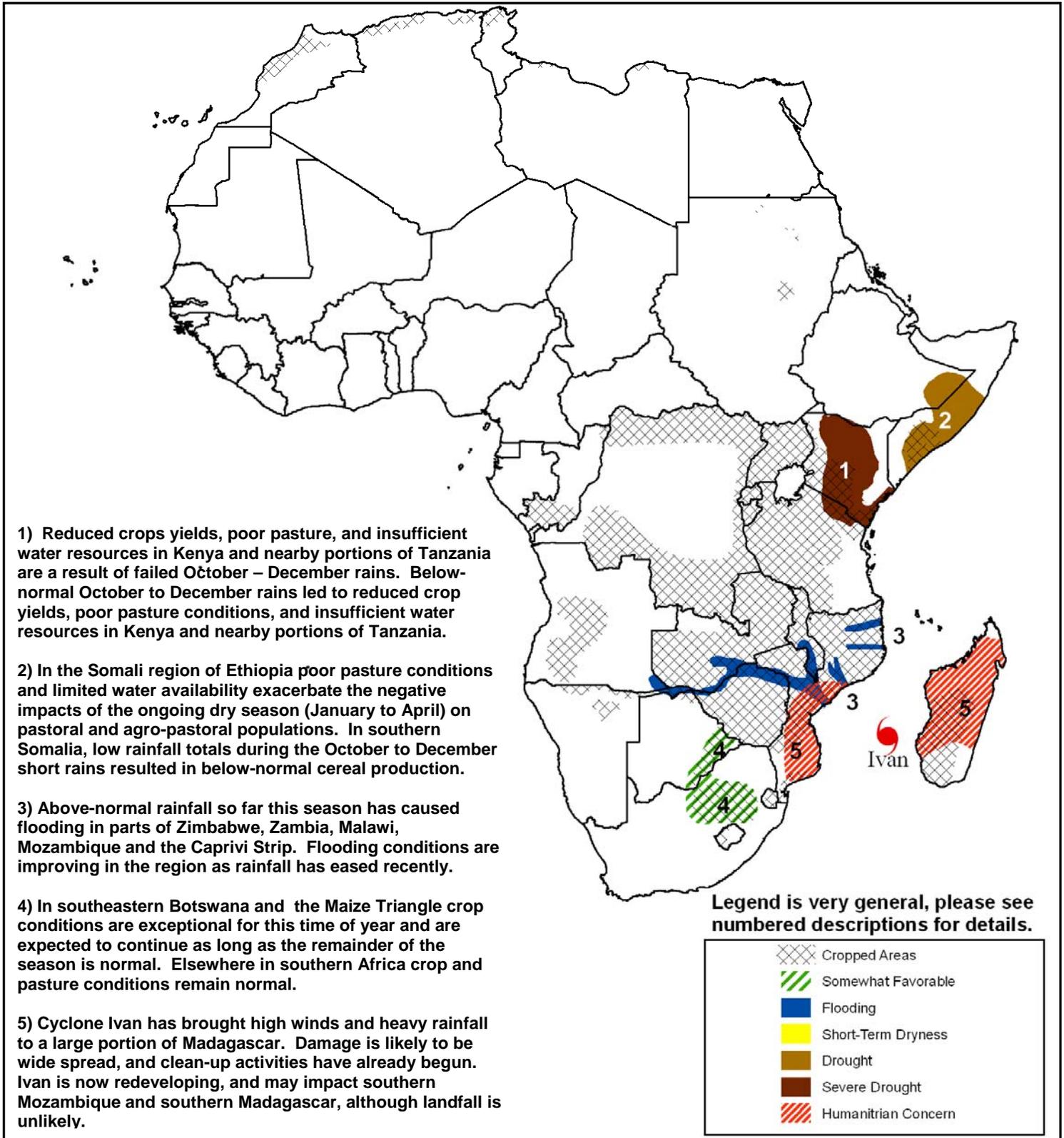


- While rains have eased in the past 30 days, flooding remains a problem in the Zambezi-Shire River Basins, as well as in nearby portions of Mozambique. Flood affected countries include: Angola, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Mozambique. While decreased precipitation has allowed for some flood relief, it has led to short-term dryness in southern Mozambique and southern Zimbabwe.
- Tropical Cyclone Ivan made landfall in Madagascar during the last week. Rainfall totals in some locations along the central east coast and in mountainous regions exceeded 250 mm. Ivan has not lost as much power as initially expected and will redevelop in the Mozambique Channel. Ivan will then most likely turn south and exit the channel without making landfall.



## Cyclone Ivan makes landfall in Madagascar, threatens Mozambique

Cyclone Ivan made landfall in northeastern Madagascar, bringing with it high winds, and heavy rain, damage to infrastructure and crops, and human fatalities. Precipitation totals exceeding 250 mm were reported along the northeast coast of the island. Damage to infrastructure, damage to crops and fatalities are spread over a wide area. The strongest impacts were felt near where the cyclone made landfall, in Toamasina. Damage has also been reported in Mahajanga, Antsiranana, and Antananarivo. Heavy rainfall was reported throughout the country, including southern portions of the island. (See **Figure 1**)

Early during the coming week, Cyclone Ivan will slip off Madagascar heading west to southwest. This takes the cyclone over warm waters, potentially strengthening the storm, which will likely spread heavy precipitation over southern Mozambique and much of Madagascar. (See **Figure 2**)

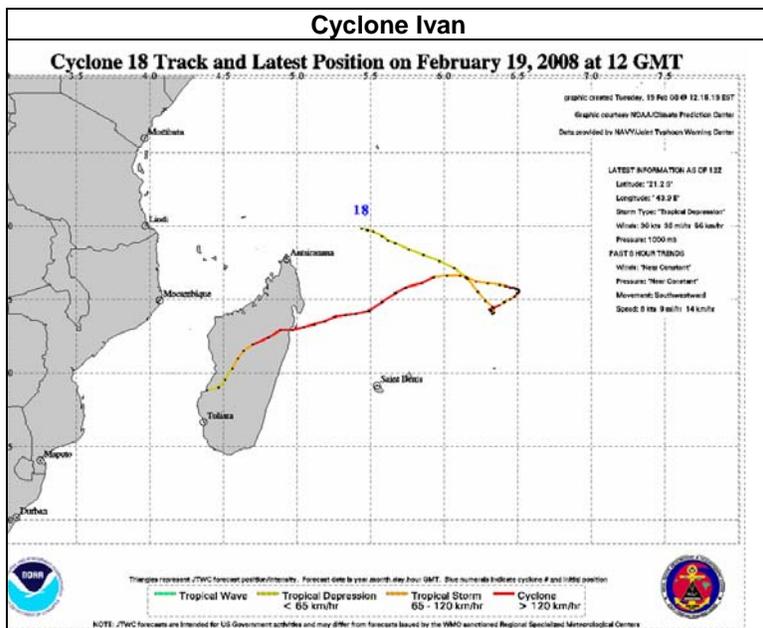


Figure 1: The path of Cyclone Ivan as of midday local time February 19th

Source: NOAA/Joint Typhoon Warning Center

## Model Precipitation Forecast February 20 – 22, 2008

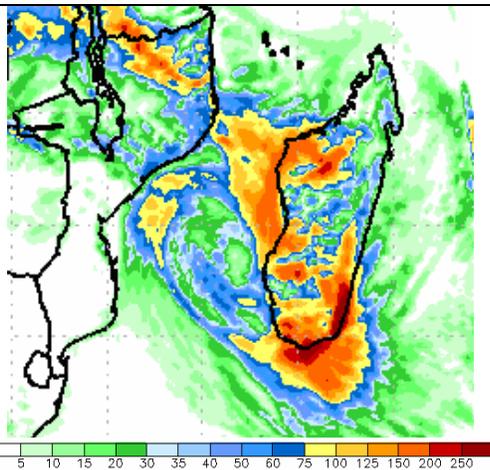


Figure 2: Forecast rainfall in the Mozambique Channel region.

Source: NOAA

## Short term dryness moves into southern Mozambique, Zambezi River Basin flooding continues to subside

While northern Mozambique and northern Zimbabwe recover from flooding earlier this season, southern portions of both countries have experienced dryness in the past month.

Flooding along the Zambezi, Shire, Messalo and other nearby rivers and tributaries has wrecked havoc across the region. Destroyed buildings, , causing localized human fatalities, infrastructural damage, and washing away of seeds and crops. Problems with soil leaching and crop pests have also been reported and may reduce crop yields in isolated locations. Flood-affected areas stretch from Angola near the Caprivi Strip to Zambia and Zimbabwe, especially along the Zambezi River and down to the Cabora Bassa Dam.

This has allowed for stabilization and some recovery in flood-affected areas. However, in areas such as southern Mozambique and southern Zimbabwe, which were not affected by floods, the decrease in regional precipitation has led to short-term dryness. Because these areas tend to grow more drought-resistant crops, this short-term dryness does not pose an immediate food security concern, though a prolonged dry spell would impact crop production. Cyclone Ivan could bring additional rainfall to these areas. (See **Figure 3**)

## Model Precipitation Forecast for February 13 – 20, 2008 Valid as of February 13

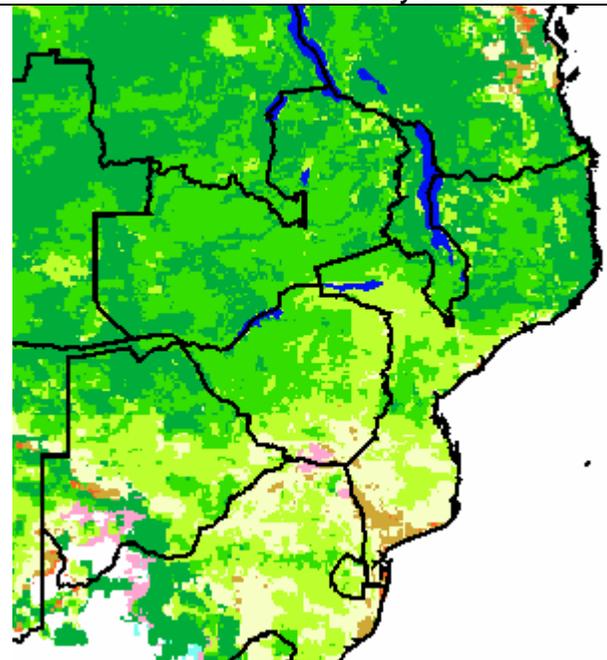


Figure 3: Dry conditions have begun to impact crops in southern Mozambique and southern Zimbabwe.

Source: USGS